



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL
INSPECTIONS
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET. ROOM 372**

Wednesday, July 13, 2011

10:00 AM

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Montaño, Vice Chairperson Bacio, Commissioner Bigby, Commissioner Hall, Commissioner Hill and Commissioner Moore

The Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence will be led by Chairperson Montaño.

Chairperson Montaño led in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed with a moment of silence.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Meeting to be called to order by Chairperson Montaño. (11-3186)

Chairperson Montaño called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

2. Approval of the June 29, 2011 Minutes. (11-3187)

On motion of Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Bigby, unanimously carried, the minutes of the meeting of July 13, 2011 were approved.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

II. REPORTS

3. Chairperson's Report on Various Items for July 13, 2011. (11-3188)

Chairperson Montaño shared the following with the Commission:

- **Sheriff's Parolee Idea Draws Questions (July 13, 2011- L.A. Times)**
- **Who Gets Parolees? (July 12, 2011 - L.A. Times)**
- **Legislator Claims Reprisal Over Budget (July 12, 2011 - L.A. Times)**
- **Foster Youths Said to Stay in Offices (July 12, 2011 - L.A. Times)**

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- **For Fujioka (June 30, 2011 - Daily Breeze)**
 - **Discussed a letter regarding the sunset review deadline of the Sybil Brand Commission**

4. Treasurer's Report for July 13, 2011. (11-3189)

Vice Chairperson Bacio reported that the current bank statement balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund is \$788.10.

5. Staff Report on Correspondence Received, and Department Representative Reports. (11-3191)

Nyla Jefferson, staff, Commission Services reported on the following:

- **Pursuant to Section 13.12.10 of the Los Angeles County Fiscal Manual all employees are required to complete and submit their Mileage Claim Forms on a regular and timely basis, and that all outstanding Mileage Claims Forms should be submitted no later than July 30, 2011.**
- **On May 31, 2011, the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors adopted the County Policy of Equity (Policy). Commissioners were provided copies of the Policy. All Commissioners submitted the signed "Employee Acknowledge and Receipt of the Policy" form.**

6. Review of Group Home Compliance Monitoring Audit Reports. (11-3190)

Chairperson Montaña, Vice-Chairperson Bacio, Commissioners Bigby, Hall and Hill commented on the Department of Children and Family Services Contract Compliance Monitoring Review Reports.

- **Pioneer Boys Group Home - The facility will no longer provide group home services after it complied with all corrective action plans - (Chairperson Montaña)**
- **San Gabriel Children Center (Four Sites) - (Commissioners Bigby, Hill and Hall)**
- **Washington/Hancock Home - (Vice-Chairperson Bacio and Commissioner Hall)**
- **Foundation of Junior Blind of America - (Commissioners Hall and Moore)**

7. Commissioners' Reports on Group Homes and/or Detention Facilities Inspections from June 30, 2011 to July 13, 2011. (11-3193)

During this reporting period the Group Homes/Facilities were reported as being the following:

Satisfactory Condition

Chairperson Montaño

- Fleming & Barnes Diamondale Adolescent #1 – 18 #3, the facility was visited on July 5, 2011; Dream Home Inc. #2 - 14 #2, the facility was visited on July 6, 2011; Penny Lane #1 - 34 #4, the facility was visited on July 7, 2011; and Optimist Boy's Home - 30 #2, the facility was visited on July 12, 2011.

Commissioner Bigby

- San Gabriel Children Center – 37, #4, the facility was visited on July 12, 2011(Audit Review for Compliance).

Commissioners Bigby and Hill

- San Gabriel Children Center – 38, #1, the facility was visited on July 6, 2011. Facility was not inspected as no one was home; however, it was re-visited and inspected on July 7, 2011(Audit Review for Compliance).

Commissioners Bigby, Hall and Hill

- San Gabriel Children Center – 38, #3, the facility was visited on July 5, 2011 (Audit Review for Compliance).

Vice-Chairperson Bacio and Commissioner Hall

- Washington/Hancock Group Home – 44, #2, the facility was visited on June 30, 2011 (Audit Review for Compliance).

Commissioners Hall and Moore

- Foundation of the Junior Blind of America – 24, #2, the facility was visited on June 12, 2011 (Audit Review for Compliance).

III. PRESENTATIONS

8. Discussion on Mental Health Issues at Group Homes.

Paul McIver, District Chief
Countywide Children's Case Management Programs
Department of Mental Health (11-3233)

In response to Vice-Chairperson Bacio concerns, Paul McIver, District Chief, Countywide Children's Case Management Programs, Department of Mental Health (DMH), stated that due to a shortage of psychiatrists who are willing to work with Group Homes in Los Angeles County, it is not unusual for one doctor such as Dr. Dadaboy to provide services to various group homes. Public service medical doctors are limited in numbers and the scope of their responsibilities; talk therapy is rare; and the focus is on hiring doctors with a specialization on certain areas, for example, prescribing medication.

Commissioner Bigby commented that prescribing PMS medication to the boys is of great concern to the Commission.

Mr. McIver responded by saying that some medications although provided to treat a particular ailment or symptom, may provide benefits in treating other symptoms, such as headaches.

Commissioner Hall commented and expressed concern regarding a previous Group Home Inspection conducted by her and Commissioner Moore, where they discovered therapy session reporting logs for clients which that were pre-dated and filled out by the group home therapist. Additionally, she commented that at Starview Group Home, staff were difficult to identify because they did now wear uniforms which makes it impossible to distinguish them from clients. However, at Vista Del Mar, staff wore uniforms which fostered a more calming atmosphere.

Mr. McIver, reported that Vista Del Mar patients with mental illness are less severe than those at Starview who serves level 14 and higher mentally ill patients. Starview is the only facility that cares for the more severe patients in Los Angeles County. His department can only suggest that a specific garment should be worn to decipher staff from clients which they have in the past. Predating and filling out client reports/diagnosis or the Cookie Cutter diagnosis are not allowed; Group Home psychiatrists are audited to ensure that Cookie Cutter diagnosis are not issued. Both facilities provide community based services.

The State of California no longer provides state hospital care for young people even though highly structure intense treatment programs are still needed. Staview's personnel are trained to handle level 14 and higher patients.

Mr. McIver reported that the State assigned the school districts the responsibility of caring for special education and mentally ill students. It is no longer the responsibility of DMH. There is a possibility that the some of the school districts will hire DMH to have access to Medicare. More information will be available in six months.

IV. DISCUSSIONS

9. Discussion and Consideration of the Scholarship Applications and Program. (11-3234)

Nyla Jefferson, staff, Commission Services reported on the following:

- **July 15, 2011, is the submission deadline for scholarship applications to be filed with Commission Services;**
- **The Scholarship Awards Luncheon is scheduled on August 9, 2011, and will be hosted by the Fifth Supervisorial District;**
- **A three member panel comprised of Commissioners Hall, Moore and Vice-Chairperson Bacio will review all scholarship applications on July 20, 2011 at 9:00 a.m., in the Sybil Brand Conference Room. A rating sheet will be used for each applicant, who will be scored on points per category. The top three scored candidates will receive scholarships. Once approved by the panel, the Commission will approve the recipients of scholarship candidates at the July 20, 2011 Business Meeting;**
- **Former Sybil Brand Commissioner John Hammargren will fund one scholarship in the amount of \$300. Commissioners with unpaid dues offered to pay their balances by July 15, 2011.**
- **LaSonya Gibbs is providing assistance in obtaining a court order to release the names of the recipients and allow photographs.**

V. MISCELLANEOUS

Matters Not Posted

10. Matters not on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action came to the attention of the Commission subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (11-3194)

There were no matters presented for a future agenda.

Public Comment

11. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (11-3195)

There were no members of the public present to address the Commission.

Adjournment

12. Adjournment for the meeting of July 13, 2011. (11-3196)

The July 13, 2011 meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.